



## **Minutes – August 7, 2023**

The regular meeting of the Michigan Citizen-Community Emergency Response Coordinating Council (MCCERCC) was held on Monday, August 7, 2023, at 7150 Harris Drive, Dimondale, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order at 2:02 p.m. by the chairpersons' designee, Insp. Michele Sosinski. Roll call was taken by the secretary and the following Council members were present: Ms. Aimee Barajas, Mr. Brad Deacon, Mr. Jay Eickholt, Ms. Krystal Fields, Mr. Steven Frisbie, Mr. Tutt Gorman, Ms. Theresa Metzmaker, Mr. Jeff Parsons, Mr. Jason Smith (on behalf of Mr. Jay Fiedler), Mr. Robert Seeley, Mr. Kevin Sehlmeier, and Insp. Michele Sosinski. There was a quorum present.

Absent from the meeting were Ms. Megan Anderson, Mr. John Dulmes, Mr. Hassan Hammoud, Ms. Ginna Holmes, Maj. Steven Haggerty, Ms. Eileen Phifer.

### **Approval of Agenda**

Mr. Robert Seeley moved to approve the August 7, 2023, agenda. Motion was supported by Mr. Kevin Sehlmeier. Agenda was approved as presented.

### **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Steven Frisbie moved to approve the April 24, 2023, meeting minutes. Motion was supported by Mr. Seeley. Minutes were approved as presented.

Inspector Sosinski issued a reminder to all attendees to identify themselves before speaking due to the regulations under the Open Meetings Act (OMA). Inspector Sosinski also noted the promotion of Ms. Brenna Roos as the Training, Exercise and Preparedness Section Manager within the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD). A new planner will eventually be hired to replace Ms. Roos.

### **Reports of Committees**

#### ***Citizen Corps***

Ms. Sherry reported that the Michigan Community Service Commission (MCSC) has continued to meet with Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) across the state to support recruitment and training. CERTs were invited to include their volunteer needs on the statewide VolunteerMichigan platform to support recruitment. In addition, three new CERT Teams have requested to install fire and CO2 devices in residential homes - Osceola, Newaygo, and Canton. The Michigan State Police (MSP) Voluntary Agency Liaison (VAL) has invited MCSC to a preparedness event in Gaylord, on September 7, with the intent to recruit CERT Volunteers. A CERT monthly newsletter update is being created that will allow the MCSC to provide information about available resources including MSP and other trainings, volunteer recruitment support, grant opportunities, and cohort meetings.

MCSC has invited CERTs and Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (VOADS) to host a 9/11 National Day of Service project. The last day to apply for a mini grant is August 11, 2023. MCSC has also released a grant opportunity to support communities to develop Community Disaster Preparedness Plans and create their unique approach to providing volunteer and donations management support to meet needs after a disaster.

Concerning the Southeast Michigan Flooding disaster, the MCSC has assisted in securing a grant writer for at least one of the long-term recovery groups. Work continues in support of flood clean up with approximately 200 homes that still need muck and gut services as well as mold suppression. The MI VOADS are continuing to provide case management, clean up, and a few are working on appliance replacement including water heaters, furnaces, washers, and dryers.

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\* Denotes employee of the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division

Concerning the Gaylord Tornado disaster, most of the work that remains requires a licensed contractor. Unfortunately, one hired contractor was given funds and left the area without doing the work. This has created problems for residents needing roofing in this case but has also placed a strain on the long-term recovery group as there are now fewer resources to assist displaced residents. MCSC is exploring how to support communities in the future to be aware of this unfortunate possibility and develop systems to prevent it. On a positive note - Gaylord is planning a fall Day of Caring with the local United Way to host a volunteer clean up and tree planting event. MCSC is working to access trees from the Keep America Beautiful program "RETREET" which has the goal to help communities plant native trees in areas that were impacted by natural disasters.

### ***Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know (EPCRA)***

Mr. Eickholt reported the EPCRA Committee met on May 5 and August 1, 2023. The May 5, 2023 meeting had a presentation from the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and federal statutes that created what we know as EPCRA, how the US Coast Guard and EPA developed and maintain area contingency plans, and the roles of federal agencies when responding to events. The EPCRA committee chair has been forwarded a request from Midland County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) on any recommendations or guidance on record retention for facilities that are subject to EPCRA and SARA reporting. The Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) is working with the US EPA on general guidance and will share with the EPCRA committee when completed. Since the MCCERCC last met, three facilities entered into consent agreements with EPA over violations to EPCRA.

Ms. Brenna Roos\* reported that the Grant Agreements for the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) grant are due to Mr. Paul Lounsbury by August 12, 2023.

### ***Hazard Mitigation***

Mr. Greg Ostrander\* reported out for Mr. Matt Schnepf on the 2023 BRIC and FMA applications, 2022 BRIC activities, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) disasters 4494 and 4607, and the 2023 Safeguarding Tomorrow Revolving Loan Fund. On August 1, 2023, EMHSD released Informational Bulletin 23-02 seeking project proposals for FY23 application cycle. The bulletin can be found at [Michigan.gov/emhsd](https://michigan.gov/emhsd) and scroll down to the Informational Bulletins header. Details about federal funding totals and deadlines are not yet available. The federal notice of funding opportunity is expected to be released at the end of August. The EMHSD is seeking notices of intent by September 24, 2023.

Concerning the FY 2022 BRIC selections, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is expected to announce the selections for the FY22 competitive grants sometime in August. Michigan submitted 12 applications, seven for competitive consideration and five for the \$2 million state allocation. The five state allocation applications have been selected and are working their way through the FEMA approval process.

HMGP 4494 and 4607 have a combined federal share of \$79,540,194 (at 90%, total project costs of \$88,377,993) available. The Hazard Mitigation Committee (HMC) met in February and March to review and rank the applications. To date, 16 grants have been approved by FEMA (of 21 that are expected to be awarded).

EMHSD submitted an application for the STORM program in May. FEMA is expected to announce selections later in August. If awarded, the grant will allow the state to start a revolving loan program for communities to implement hazard mitigation projects.

Mr. Ostrander\* also provided another report to the full MCCERCC regarding a high-level summary of the Michigan Hazard Analysis (MHA) (natural hazards) draft publication that had been previously provided to the HMC. He also provided select pages of that draft to the HMC via a handout. Because of the many new committee members, he also provided a separate handout designed for feedback, particularly re-asking for any mitigation objective suggestions that committee members might have.

### **Old Business**

Mr. Jason Smith provided a Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) update. Budget Periods for Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) and Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP) officially started on July 1, 2023. In total, \$17 million preparedness funds have been awarded between MDHHS, local public health departments, participating tribal health, and regional healthcare coalition partners.

Regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19), COVID-19 vaccines for the fall and winter will have updated composition with an XBB-lineage of the Omicron variant. COVID-19 therapeutics (oral antivirals) continue to be distributed by the federal government free of charge to providers and the public. Transition to commercial marketplace is forthcoming, likely once federal supply has been exhausted.

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MDHHS has updated its pandemic influenza response plan per legislative requirement. Pending internal review and approval, the plan will be posted publicly.

MDHHS, in coordination with EGLE, is working to address public health concerns over PM 2.5 (Particle pollution from fine particulates) in Michigan communities because of wildfire smoke affecting air quality in Michigan.

Ms. Roos indicated the MCCERCC membership roster was updated, and she requested members view their information after the meeting and provide any updates or changes.

### **New Business**

Ms. Roos reminded the MCCERCC members of the impending MCCERCC Annual Plan to be sent to Committee Chairpersons. A draft of the plan will need to be prepared prior to the November 6 MCCERCC Meeting.

Inspector Sosinski asked Council Members to please provide agenda items for meetings because the Council would like to hear from more of its members.

### **Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

Inspector Sosinski reminded members that the next MCCERCC meeting is scheduled for November 6 from 2 - 4 p.m. at MSP Headquarters, 1917 Room.

### **Adjournment**

Mr. Tutt Gorman moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion was supported by Ms. Aimee Barajas. Meeting adjourned at 2:38 p.m.

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Mr. Brad Deacon, Secretary